

MARAC (Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference)

What is the MARAC?

The MARAC is a monthly multi agency meeting, which focuses on the safety of victims of domestic abuse identified as being at high risk. A risk identification tool, DASH, is used by all agencies to identify victims at high risk and refer them to the MARAC.

Once referred the victim is discussed at the next MARAC meeting. Relevant information is shared, the risks are identified, and safety actions are taken by the appropriate agency as part of a risk management plan.

Who should attend?

The MARAC is made up of a core group of agencies across the statutory and voluntary sectors including police, probation, children's services, adult's services, health, education, housing, substance misuse services, specialist domestic abuse services and the Independent Domestic Violence Advisor (IDVA) Service. IDVA's represent the interests and views of the victim through the MARAC process. Other agencies attend on an ad hoc basis, when they have involvement in one of the cases being discussed.

Education and MARAC

Sophie Morley from the Education Safeguarding Service makes contact with education providers to ask them to complete a report for MARAC if a child registered to their setting is subject to a discussion at the next conference. Education staff do not need to attend themselves. It is, however, **very important that reports are sent to the MARAC coordinator and copied to Sophie in good time**, even if there is nothing of concern to report from the education provider point of view. Sophie sends out the minutes following the MARAC and she will check whether there are any actions for the education provider. Meetings are held in three areas of the county every month and the turnaround time can be very short. Unfortunately this is unavoidable and the education safeguarding service is grateful for the co-operation of education providers to help safeguard children.

Referrals and further information:

<http://www.talk2someone.org.uk/professional/documents-and-strategies/multi-agency-risk-assessment-conference-marac>

Referrals can be made, and are encouraged, by any agency which identifies a victim of domestic abuse as being high risk. The formal risk identification tool (DASH) should be completed by the referring agency and upon meeting the MARAC threshold for high risk, the MARAC referral form should be sent to the MARAC Coordinator using the following routes.

If the referrer has secure email, then send to:

MARAC email address warwickshiremaracreferrals@refuge.cjism.net all referrals will be processed in the usual manner.

If the referrer does not have secure email, then the referrer should ring the MARAC Coordinator as below to obtain the password for the relevant MARAC. The referral should then be sent in a password protected zip file to:

Email: warwickshiremaracreferrals@refuge.org.uk

If there is an urgent concern and you need to discuss a MARAC case please call and request to talk to Kaylee Linton the deputy service manager for DVSW on 07921409772 or kaylee_linton@refuge.org.uk or please contact the **MARAC Coordinator – Hayley Whitfield on Telephone – 07464928745 or email hayley_whitfield@refuge.org.uk.**